

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are now pending in the application. Claims 1 and 4 are now amended. Claims 8 and 9 are now added. The claim amendments and new claims are fully supported by the application as filed and do not present new subject matter. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-4 and 6-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanakawa et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,747,723). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, in part and with reference to Figures 2, 3, and 4 for exemplary purposes only as the invention includes numerous embodiments, reflection electrodes 212 having a multilayer structure. The reflection electrodes 212 include a reflective conductive layer 212X made of one of silver and a silver alloy and a transparent conductive layer 212Y provided on the reflective conductive layer. The transparent conductive layer 212Y is thicker than the reflective conductive layer 212X. External wirings 218b and 218c (Figures 3 and 4) are connected to the reflection electrodes and are provided outside the material enclosure region. The external wirings have transparent conductive layer 218Y, but not a reflective layer. See, for example, paragraph [0051].

Amended independent Claim 4 recites, in part and with reference to Figures 2, 3, and 4 for exemplary purposes only as the invention includes numerous embodiments, forming reflective conductive layers 212X made of one of silver and a silver alloy on one

of the pair of substrates only in a first region to be used as material enclosure region in which the electro-optic material is enclosed. Claim 4 also recites forming transparent conductive layers 212Y in a first region and in a second region located outside the material enclosure region. The transparent conductive layers are thicker than the reflective conductive layers.

The Hanakawa et al. reference appears to disclose, with reference to Figures 2 and 3, a liquid crystal device having segment electrodes 310 and common electrodes 210. The segment electrodes 310 include a transparent conductive film 314 disposed atop a reflective pattern 312. The Hanakawa et al. reference fails to disclose the relative thickness of the transparent film 314 as compared to the reflective pattern 312, as set forth in Claims 1 and 4.

The Hanakawa et al. reference further includes external wirings 350 comprising a reflective conductive film 352 disposed beneath a transparent conductive film 354. As set forth at column 9, lines 62-67, “the transparent conductive films 354 are one size larger than the reflective conductive films 352.” The Hanakawa et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest transparent conductive layers having a thickness larger than the reflective conductive layers in a material enclosure region, as set forth in amended Claims 1 and 4.

While the Hanakawa et al. reference appears to disclose that the transparent conductive film 354 is “one size larger than” the reflective conductive film 352, these transparent and reflective films are part of an external wiring 350 and not included in reflective electrodes present in a material enclosure region, as set forth in amended Claims 1 and 4. In fact, the Hanakawa et al. reference teaches away from Applicant’s

invention. Specifically, the Hanakawa et al. reference appears to disclose that the external wirings 350 require transparent and reflective films 354 and 352. In contrast, the external wirings 218b and 218c of Applicant's invention include transparent conductive layers 218Y and specifically exclude reflective layer 218X, as set forth in Figure 4c and paragraph [0051].

The Hanakawa et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of amended Claims 1 and 4. Therefore, the Hanakawa et al. reference fails to anticipate or render obvious amended Claims 1 and 4 and those claims dependent therefrom. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this Section 102 rejection of Claims 1 and 4 and those claims dependent therefrom.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanakawa. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2 and 5 are dependent upon Claims 1 and 4 respectively. As set forth above, amended Claims 1 and 4 are not anticipated or obvious in light of the Hanakawa et al. reference. Therefore, Claims 2 and 5 dependent therefrom are also not obvious in light of the Hanakawa et al. reference, at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent Claims 1 and 4.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this Section 103 rejection of Claims 2 and 5.

NEW CLAIMS

New Claims 8 and 9 are now added. The new claims are fully supported by the application as filed and do not introduce new subject matter.

The new claims further define the relative thickness of the transparent conductive layer as compared to the reflective conductive layer. Support for these claims can be found throughout the application as filed, such as at, for example, paragraph [0064].

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

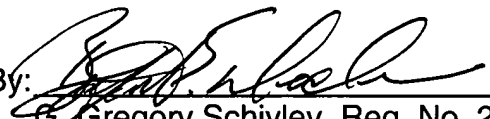
Filed herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement including references cited in a corresponding Taiwanese application. The references fail to disclose or render obvious the features of the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of these references.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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